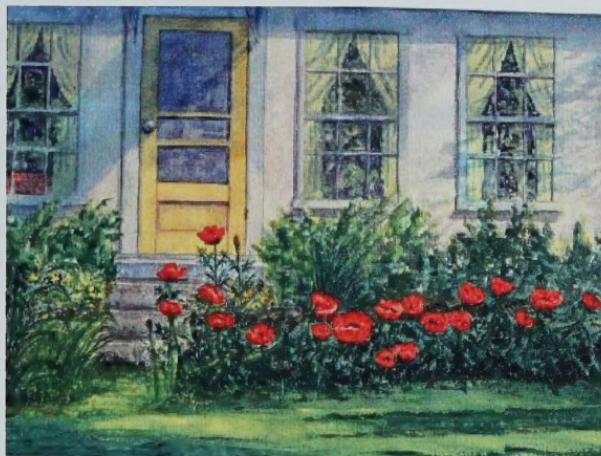


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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF ORANGE
NEW HAMPSHIRE



FOR THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2003



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POPPIES

**Cover Watercolor by
Ruth Currier Bagley**

from the Town of Orange art collection

**THIS ANNUAL TOWN REPORT IS
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY
OF**

**RUTH CURRIER BAGLEY
AND
DOROTHY M. HARPOOTLIAN**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE OFFICERS

TOWN OF ORANGE NEW HAMPSHIRE

2003

Telephone and fax: 523-7054

Website: town.orange.nh.us

E-mail: orange@endor.com

SELECTMEN

Carol Decato'04* Scott Sanborn '05*Charles Sova'06

MODERATOR TOWN CLERK TREASURER

Daniel Hazelton Carol Decato Linda Giner

TAX DEEDING ROAD

COLLECTOR AGENT AGENT

Sharon Proulx Sharon Proulx Geaorge White

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE Charles Sova

OVERSEER OF PUBLIC WELFARE Selectmen

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Alice Smith 04* Louis Shelzi 05* Edith Sova'06

CEMETERY HEALTH POLICE

AGENT OFFICER CHIEF

James Colburn Donald Pfafflin Andrew Ware

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Proulx, Chairman*Robert Ells, Vice Chairman

William Fulton*Katharine Riley*Lyell Smith*George Smith

Scott Sanborn, Selectmens' Representative

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Donald Pfafflin, Chairman * Judith Connelly * Beverly Ells

Richard Jaeger * Charles Sova, Selectmen's Representative

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Beverly Ells'04 Barbara Smith'06

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Elwin Grace, Anita Watson

FOREST FIRE WARDEN Brent Stevens, Larry Belloir

DEPUTY WARDENS Daniel Hazelton

AUDITORS Bruce Ells, Catherine Ells

BUILDING INSPECTOR Donald Pfafflin

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Lyell Smith'04 Robert Proulx'05 Tim Connelly'06

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ORANGE
TOWN WARRANT
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Orange, in the county of Grafton in said state, qualified to vote in Town affairs.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED to meet at the Town House in said Orange on Tuesday, the 9th day of March, 2004, at eleven o'clock a.m. to act upon the following subjects. The polls will open for the election of Town Officers at 11 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. unless the Meeting votes to extend the time.

ARTICLE 1: To choose by ballot and plurality vote 1 Moderator, 1 Town Clerk for one year, 1 Town Treasurer for one year, 1 Selectman for three years, 1 Cemetery Agent for one year, 1 Cemetery Trustee for 2 years, 1 Cemetery Trustee for 3 years, 1 Overseer of Public Welfare for one year, 1 Budget Committee Member for three years, 2 Auditors for one year, 1 Road Agent for one year, 1 Tax Collector for one year, 1 Health Officer for one year, 1 Supervisor of the Checklist for six years, 1 Deeding Agent for one year, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for one year, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for two years, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for three years and any other officers required by law.

The following articles will be discussed and acted upon at the business meeting, which will start at 7 p.m.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to give a discount of 3% except for resident taxes on taxes paid in full within twenty days from the date of the bills pursuant to RSA 80:52 on the condition that the taxpayer deduct the discount at time of payment.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) to be paid into the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of a revaluation of property and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund for said purpose.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 dollars to be paid into the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve for the purpose of purchasing highway related equipment.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be paid into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of Town House building improvements.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the Highway Block Grant Fund of \$27,084.63 for construction, reconstruction and maintenance of Class 4 or 5 highways and for the purchase of equipment. Said amount to be included in Article 7.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$193,197.44 for town expenses as called for by the budget, submitted by the Budget Committee, and pass any vote in relation thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be paid into the Town Document Preservation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of restoring and preserving Town documents.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for the purpose of providing library services to town residents at the Canaan Town Library.

(RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to establish a new capital reserve fund to be known as the Elderly and Handicapped Day Care Support Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of donating to a planned private not-for-profit organization providing day care services to area residents and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund for said purpose.

(NOT RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be paid into the Elderly and Handicapped Day Care Support Capital Reserve Fund.

(NOT RECOMMENDED BY SELECTMEN)

(NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 12: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, and other officers heretofore and pass any vote relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To transact any business that may legally come before the meeting not on the warrant.

ARTICLE 14: Polls shall not close earlier than eight o'clock in the evening.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HAND AND SEAL THIS TWENTY FIRST DAY OF FEBRUARY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND FOUR.

Carol E. Decato, Scott Sanborn, Charles E. Sova
Board of Selectmen

ORANGE TOWN BUDGET
PURPOSES OF APPROPRIATION

	Approp 2003	Expend 2003	Approp 2004
General Government			
Officers Salaries	\$9,200	\$8,573	\$9,200.00
Elections & Registration	400	455	2,000.00
Abatements	200	0	200 .00
Property Reappraisal	1,500	0	1,000.00
Legal Expenses	5,000	2,000	5,000.00
FICA Payments	2,100	2,787	2,100.00
Planning and Zoning	2,200	1,385	1,500.00
General Gov't Blding.	3,000	4,210	4,000.00
Cemeteries	1,800	1,379	1,800.00
Insurance	3,300	3,305	3,300.00
Membership	800	347	800.00
Officers Expenses	3,000	2,703	3,000.00
Public Safety			
Police Department	25,000	29,605	15,000.00
FAST Squad (Canaan)	3,500	3,500	3,500.00
Fire Department	12,500	12,210	12,500.00
Building Inspection	600	0	1,200.00
Emergency Mgmt. E911	100	0	100.00
Highway & Streets			
Highway	59,500	69,462	75,000.00
Sanitation			
Garbage Removal	20,000	15,478	19,000.00
Health			
Grafton County Senior			
Citizens &			
Mascoma Home Health	2,000	2,040	2,000.00

	Approp 2003	Expend 2003	Approp 2004
Welfare			
Direct Assistance	1,500.00	1,754.00	1,500.00
Culture and Recreation			
Other	350.00	431.00	350.00
Debt Service			
Road Bond	21,162.02	21,162.02	22,329.94
Road Bond Interest	3,220.42	3,220.42	2,052.50
Truck Loan	3,540.00	3,540.00	265.00
Capital Outlay			
Town House	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>
Totals	189,972.44	189,546.44	193,197.44

SOURCES OF REVENUE

	Estimate 2003	Actual 2003	Estimate 2004
Taxes			
Land Use Change Tax	0	0	0
Resident Taxes	2,050.00	1,850.00	1,900.00
Yield taxes	3,000.00	10,495.84	5,000.00
Int. & Pen. on Delinquent taxes	1,500.00	2,380.76	1,800.00
Inventory Penalties	100.00	200.00	100.00
Licenses, Permits & Fees			
Motor vehicle permit fees	40,000.00	41,785.00	41,000.00
Building Permits	150.00	215.00	200.00
Other licenses, permits & fees	400.00	1,635.72	400.00

	Estimate 2003	Actual 2003	Estimate 2004
From Federal Government	0	0	0
From State			
Shared Revenue	2,800.00	2,802.00	2,800.00
Rooms & Meals Tax Dist.	8,000.00	8,895.47	8,500.00
Highway Block Grant	25,445.64	25,445.64	27,084.63
State & Fed. Forest Land Reimb	6,500.00	8,381.17	7,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues			
Sale of Municipal Property	13,009.67	27,667.50	0
Interest on investments	1,500.00	1,014.74	1,000.00
Other (Municipal Fees)	0	258.00	500.00
Total Revenue & Credits	\$104,455.31	\$133,026.84	\$124,784.63

SUMMARY OF VALUATION
As of December 31, 2003

Land	10,793,272
Buildings-Residential	11,077,492
Public Utilities	<u>374,122</u>
	\$22,244,886

Treasurer's Report Year 2003

Starting Cash 1/1/2003 \$217,877.06
Receipts from Selectmen:

Licenses/permits/fees

Driveway Permits	30.00
Current Use Application	80.37
Pistol Permits	10.00
Building Permits	215.00

Other Income

Burial Plots	100.00
Voter Checklist	57.00
Town History	11.25
Planning Board	591.50
Sale of Town Property	27,667.50
Zoning	109.10

Insurance Dividends & Reimbursements

NHMA Property/Liability 494.07

State of New Hampshire

Rooms & Meals Tax Reimb	8,895.47
Shared Revenue Block Grant	2,802.00
Highway Block Grant	25,445.64
State & Federal forest Reimb	8,381.17

TOTAL FROM SELECTMEN: \$74,890.07

Receipts from Town Clerk:

Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$41,785.00
Motor Vehicle Titles	146.00
Dog Licenses Issued	484.50
Dog License Late Fees	8.00
Municipal Fees	258.00
Filing Fees	8.00
TOTAL FROM TOWN CLERK	\$42,689.50

Receipts from Tax Collector:

2003 Property Tax	\$434,845.19
2002 Property Tax	38,115.25
2001 Property Tax Interest	1,976.06
2003 Property Tax Overpayment	221.77
2002 Property Tax Overpayment	.20
2003 Resident Tax	1,730.00
2002 Resident Tax	120.00
2003 Resident Tax Penalty	3.00
2002 Resident Tax Penalty	12.00
2003 Yield Tax	10,495.84
2003 Yield Tax Costs	392.50
Sub Total:	\$487,911.81

2000 Tax Liens Redeemed	\$ 7,204.00
Interests and Costs	\$ 2,974.16
2001 Tax Liens Redeemed	\$ 672.47
Interests and Costs	\$ 248.82
2002 Tax Liens Redeemed	\$ 1,610.02
Interest and Costs	\$ 150.30
TOTAL FROM TAX COLLECTOR	\$500,771.58

Receipts from Bank:

Mascoma Savings Bank	
Interest Money Market	\$ 861.65
Interest Maximizer (road acct)	\$ 141.77
Interest Checking Account	\$ 11.32
Tax Anticipation Note	\$ 143,400.00
Totals From Bank	\$144,414.74

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS \$762,765.89**FUNDS DISBURSED:**

Vouchers paid per order of Selectmen	\$579,748.16
Principal owed Tax Anticipation Note	\$143,400.00
Interest Tax anticipation Note	\$ 790.54
**Service Charge Mascoma Savings Bank	10.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$723,948.70**CASH ON HAND DECEMBER 31, 2003 \$256,694.25****BORROWED FUNDS 2003**

Tax Anticipation Note	\$143,400.00
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**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
LINDA J. GINER, TREASURER**

TAX COLLECTOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

DEBITS:

Uncollected Taxes-	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Beg. of Year:			
Property Taxes		38,115.25	
Resident Taxes		160.00	
Taxes Committed-			
This Year:			
Property Taxes	483,710.85	0.00	0.00
Resident Taxes	2,050.00	0.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	12,760.73	0.00	0.00
Resident Tax Additions	20.00		
Overpayment:			
Property Taxes	221.77	0.00	0.00
Resident Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00
Costs & overpayment	0.00	392.70	0.00
-Property Tax-			
Interest-Late Tax-Property	0.00	1,976.06	0.00
Resident Tax Penalty	3.00	12.00	0.00
TOTAL DEBITS	\$498,766.35	\$40,656.01	0.00

CREDITS:

Remitted to Treasurer	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Property Taxes	434,845.19	38,115.25	0.00
Resident Taxes	1,730.00	120.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	10,495.84	0.00	0.00
Interest	0.00	1,976.06	0.00
Penalties – Resident Tax	3.00	12.00	0.00
Property Tax Overpayment and Costs	221.77	392.70	0.00
Discounts Allowed	12,948.71	0.00	0.00
-Property Tax-			

CREDITS:

Remitted to Treasurer	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Abatements Made:			
Property Taxes	195.50	0.00	0.00
Resident Taxes	120.00	30.00	0.00
Under Paid Property Tax	.36		

Uncollected**Taxes-End of Year**

Property Taxes	35,721.09	0.00	0.00
Resident Taxes	220.00	10.00	0.00
Yield Taxes	2,264.89		

TOTAL CREDITS	\$498,766.35	\$40,656.01	\$ 0.00
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TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2003****DEBITS:**

LEVIES OF	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Unredeemed Liens			
Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year	0.00	15,871.18	7,204.00
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	19,924.66	0.00	0.00
Interest & Costs Collected	150.30	248.82	2,974.16
TOTAL DEBITS	\$20,074.96	\$16,120.00	\$10,178.16

Remitted to Treasurer:	2002	2001	2000
Redemptions	1,610.02	672.47	7,204.00
Interest & Costs			
Collected	150.30	248.82	2,974.16
Unredeemed Liens			
Bal. End of Year	\$18,314.64	\$15,198.71	0.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$20,074.96	\$16,120.00	\$10,178.16

Sharon Lee Proulx, Tax Collector

**TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS OF THE TOWN OF
ORANGE CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS
Ending December 31, 2003**

<u>Capital Reserve Fund</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Added Interest</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Highway Equip.	\$1,067.59		\$21.78	\$1,089.37
Capital Reserve				
Created: 4/19/01 – Mascoma Savings Bank Account #68015516				
Interest Rate: 2.96% APY 3.00% Maturity Date: 4/21/03				
New Rate: 1.53% APY 1.55% from 4/21/03				
Maturity Date: 4/21/04				
Highway Equip.	\$1,022.55--\$5,000.00--	\$76.68 --		\$6,099.23
Capital Reserve				
Created: 3/20/02 – Mascoma Savings Bank Account #68017817				
Interest Rate: 2.96% APY 3.00% thru 3/21/03				
New Rate: 1.54% APY 1.55% from 3/21/03				
Maturity Date: 3/21/04				
Warrant Article #4 3/11/03 (New Funds \$5000.00)				
Revaluation	\$16,088.75--\$5,000.00--\$368.47			\$21,457.22
Capital Reserve				
Created: 4/19/01 – Mascoma Savings Bank Account #68015515				
Interest Rate: 2.96% APY 3.00% thru 3/22/03				

New Rate:1.54% APY 1.55% from 3/22/03

Maturity Date: 3/23/04

Warrant Article #3, March 11,2003 (New Funds \$5,000.00)

Town House

Capital Reserve \$6,393.10--\$2000.00--\$146.22 \$8,539.32

Created: 5/22/01 – Mascoma Savings Bank Account #68012181

Interest Rate: 2.96% APY 3.00% thru 3/22/03

New Rate: 1.54% APY 1.55% from 3/22/03

Maturity Date: 3/23/04

Warrant Article #5, 3/11/03 (New Funds \$2,000.00)

TOWN DOCUMENT PRESERVATION

Capital Reserve 0.00 -- \$2,000.00 ---\$23.30 \$2,023.30

Created: 3/27/03 – Mascoma Savings Bank Account #68021143

Interest Rate: 1.54% APY 1.55%

Maturity Date: 3/29/04

Warrant Article #8, March 11,2003 (New Funds)

Alice Smith, Edith Sova, & Louis Shelzi, Trustees of Trust Funds

**REPORT OF THE COMMON TRUST FUND
INVESTMENTS FOR 2003 OF THE TOWN OF ORANGE,
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

PRINCIPAL

Date Created	FUND	Balance 1/1/03	12/31/03
8/23/15	Hannah M. French	200.00	200.00
5/02/17	Jennie M. French	200.00	200.00
3/28/33	Arthur A. Briggs	100.00	100.00
3/27/34	Clara A. Huse	100.00	100.00
8/09/34	Asa Hoyt	100.00	100.00
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Eastman	250.00	250.00

3/13/56	Abbie Fellows	250.00	250.00
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. A. Ford	250.00	250.00
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ford	250.00	250.00
3/13/56	Lyman Batchelder	100.00	100.00
TOTALS		1,800.00	1,800.00

INCOME

Interest Rate: 1/01/03-12/02/03=2.44% APY: 2.25%
 12/02/03-12/31/03=1.39% APY: 1.40%

<u>Date Created</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>Balance 1/1/03</u>	<u>Interest</u>
8/23/15	Hannah M. French	694.41	21.28
5/02/17	Jennie M. French	1,000.37	21.28
3/28/33	Arthur A. Briggs	318.66	10.84
3/27/34	Clara A. Huse	281.45	10.84
8/09/34	Asa Hoyt	293.67	10.84
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Eastman	732.23	26.89
3/13/56	Abbie Fellows	990.51	26.89
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. A. Ford	1,018.85	26.89
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ford	1,077.71	26.89
3/13/56	Lyman Batchelder	291.76	10.84
TOTALS		\$6,799.62	\$193.48

REPORT OF THE COMMON TRUST FUND INVESTMENTS FOR 2003 OF THE TOWN OF ORANGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

<u>Date Created</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/02</u>
8/23/15	Hannah M. French	915.69
5/02/17	Jennie M. French	1,221.65
3/28/33	Arthur A. Briggs	429.50
3/27/34	Clara A. Huse	392.29
8/09/34	Asa Hoyt	404.51
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Eastman	1,109.12

3/13/56	Abbie Fellows	1,267.40
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. A. Ford	1,295.74
3/13/56	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ford	1,354.60
3/13/56	Lyman Batchelder	402.60
TOTALS		\$8,793.10

Cemetery Trust Funds held in Common Trust Account

Mascoma Savings Bank, Account # 386005459

Interest Rate: 2.22% APY: 2.25% thru 12/02/03

Certificate Matures 3/02/05

Balance on 12/31/03 was \$8,793.10

ERNEST KILTON BARNARD MEMORIAL FUND

TOWN OF ORANGE CEMETERY TRUST

<u>Date Created</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
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12/26/02	\$10,152.18	324.87	\$10,477.05
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Funds held in Mascoma Savings Bank Account #68020124

Interest Rate: 3.20% APY: 3.25%

Certificate Matures: 9/18/04

Balance on 12/13/03 was \$10,477.05

Alice Smith, Edith Sova, & Louis Shelzi, Trustees of Trust Funds

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK JANUARY-DECEMBER 2003

401 Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$41,785.00
74 Titles	146.00
Municipal Fees	258.00
74 Dog Permits	484.50
5 Penalties	8.00
Filing Fees	8.00
 Total deposits	 \$42,689.50

VITAL STATISTICS 2003

BIRTHS

Kylie Elizabeth Ells	April 24, 2003
Born to: Catherine and Bruce Ells	
Emilie Kathleen Conrad	December 24,2003
Born to: Brandi and Franklyn Conrad	

DEATHS

Ruth Bagley	December 27,2003
Dorothy M. Harpoottlian	July 12, 2003

AUDITOR'S REPORT
To the Selectmen of Orange, New Hampshire
Year Ending December 31, 2003

We extend our thanks to the Town Officials for their cooperation and assistance in carrying out the 2003 audit. Their time and effort is most appreciated.

We only have one recommendation as a result of this year's audit. We strongly suggest the selectmen submit a written document to the town treasurer indicating which voucher number to close the books with at the end of the year. This document should be signed by at least 2 of the 3 selectmen. This would eliminate the communication issues that were encountered this year relating to two vouchers paid in 2004 for 2003 expenses. In the end, this issue was resolved and the selectmen's books balanced to the treasurer.

All of the Town's accounts balanced, and only the one adjustment mentioned above was made as a result of this years audit. In our opinion, the officer's reports accurately reflect the financial position of the Town of Orange for the year ending December 31, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine A. Ells
Auditor, Town of Orange

Bruce E. Ells
Auditor, Town of Orange

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY
As of December 31, 2003

Town Hall & Land	77,400.00
Other Town Properties	
Land	93,971.00
Furniture & Equipment	10,000.00
Library - Books and Equipment	2,000.00
Police Department	2,000.00
Highway Department	41,000.00
Cemetery Department	<u>1,500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$227,871.00
Number of Inventories Distributed 2003	279
Appropriations Expended:	
Town	\$189,546.44
School	\$310,700.68
County	\$ 26,475.00
Other:	
Taxes bought by Town	<u>\$ 19,924.66</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$546,646.78

Tax Rate Per \$1,000.00	
Municipal	\$5.69
County	\$1.63
School	\$18.06
State Property	<u>\$5.08</u>
TOTAL	\$30.46

DETAILED STATEMENT OF VOUCHERS TOWN OFFICER SALARIES

Alice Smith	\$100.00
Bruce Ells	\$60.00
Carol Decato	\$2,357.00
Catherine Ells	\$60.00
Charles Sova	\$1,300.00
Daniel Hazelton	\$60.00
Edith Sova	\$100.00
Linda Giner	\$800.00
Louis Shelzi	\$100.00
Lyell Smith	\$60.00
Pat White	\$992.00
Robert Proulx	\$60.00
Scott Sanborn	\$1,300.00
Sharon Proulx	\$1,164.00
Timothy Connelly	<u>\$60.00</u>
	\$8,573.00

TOWN OFFICER EXPENSES

123Inkjets	\$64.95
Branham Publishing	\$12.90
Carol Decato	\$375.67
Carol Elliott	\$130.00
Charles Sova	\$200.08
CPI	\$52.84
Endor	\$200.00
Joel Dupuis, Register	\$147.71
McBee	\$155.57
NH Health Offficers	\$10.00
Pat White	\$129.95
Price Digests	\$53.95
Robert Proulx	\$91.15
Sharon Proulx	\$19.78

Stamp Fulfillment Svcs	\$210.85
Staples	\$32.94
Stark & Son	\$21.50
State of NH-MV	\$25.00
The Country Chronicle	\$42.00
Treasurer, State of NH	\$435.00
USPS	<u>\$290.95</u>
	\$2,702.79

PLANNING AND ZONING

Joel Dupuis, Reg. Dds.	\$26.00
The Cardigan	\$64.00
Country Chronicle	\$42.00
Sandi Pierson	\$46.10
Country Chronicle	\$48.00
Robert Proulx	\$340.60
UVLSRPC	<u>\$818.00</u>
	\$1,384.70

TOWN HALL EXPENSES

Charles Sova	\$1,798.50
George White	\$47.00
Hennessy Plumbing	\$96.13
Johnson&Dix	\$1,683.54
Marilyn Johnson	\$25.27
NH Electric Coop	\$717.05
Verizon	<u>\$342.45</u>
	\$4,709.94

MEMBERSHIP

NH Assoc. of Assess	\$20.00
Town Clerks' Assn	\$20.00
NH Tax Collectors	\$20.00
UVLSRPC	<u>\$287.00</u>
	\$347.00

Orange Police Department Report

911 calls	3
911 maintenance	22
Assist victims of crime	81
Assist other departments	123
Citizens assist	222
Police information	58
Motor vehicle complaints	24
Criminal investigations	51
Juvenile	13
Sex offender	10
Stalking	2
Burglar alarms	16
Domestic	7
Civil standby	3
Animal complaints	7
Court	20
Schools	19
Teach schools	4
 Totals	682
Voice messages:	1229
Pages:	over 1230
Cell message:	not calculated
Phone calls:	unknown
Cell calls:	not calculated

We had three burglaries on Tuttle Hill Road this year. I have tied one in with some burglaries that happened in Grafton and believe they are all tied in with a group out of the Danbury area. During this time period Danbury had about three burglaries a week.

Also along Tuttle Hill Road there was a mail box bashing spree that corresponded to a larger spree in Canaan. We now have enough information so that arrest should be coming soon.

Motor vehicle accidents accounted for the most personal injury and monetary loss. Thefts accounted for the second highest monetary loss with a recovery rate of over 50%. Domestic violence proved again to be the most violent crimes. Juvenile cases proved to be some of the most time consuming; partly because it is my belief that this is where we can do the most to help the family, and partly because of the court system. Sexual assaults may have been the most damaging, and personally the most troubling, because they usually involved young people; some as young as 3 years old. The increasing drug use, including heroin, may be a contributing factor in the property crimes.

With the ever increasing mobile society the Orange Police Department has found itself working with police departments throughout New England and New York this past year. This year we have already started an investigation that involves Florida and the FBI. Interstate rendition makes prosecution of these crimes more time consuming and complex, as the laws of the states must be coordinated.

Computers and the internet are fast becoming a part of law enforcement as well as criminal activity. Many law enforcement courses are available on the internet and on CDs; I have taken advantage of a number of these to supplement traditional classroom courses. Listservers and news groups are another important part of the internet that allows for exchange of information. Utilization of the internet and affiliations with organizations like the National White Collar Crime Center and the National Center for Rural Law Enforcement are necessary to combat today's crime.

GRANTS: I have written some Homeland Security grants and have about \$1,500.00 waiting and more to come. A Highway Safety grant provided the department with a portable breathalyzer, valued at about \$400.00. Through Emergency Management the Town will be reimbursed for cost of a 48 hour period of snow removal. The police department will be receiving a new mobile radio with installation. The State's cost of the radio alone is \$3,287.00. I have a supplemental grant into Homeland Security for a portable radio that will cost about \$3,000.00. Another grant has provided the Town with ArcView software and will probably be providing the police department with a GPS. Through the Grafton County Sheriff's Department Dispatch, the police department should be getting mobile data terminals.

Let me know if there is anything that I can do to help. E911 has a supplementary data form that can be filled out, so that emergency responders have more information about special problems or medical conditions that may be encountered. I know there are some Orange residents that should take advantage of this because it may be of critical importance for their safety. I have the forms and will be happy to deliver them to anyone that wants them. I am here to serve you and if I not resolve your concerns, I will try to find someone that can.

Phone: 523-7375
Cell: 381-8000
Pager: 467-5524
Dispatch: 800-564-6911 or 787-6911
Fax: 504-910-5838
Email: aware@leo.gov

Respectfully submitted:
Andrew H. Ware
Police Chief, Town of Orange

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Andrew Ware	\$29,604.52
	\$29,604.52

HIGHWAYS - SUMMER

Canaan Hardware	\$174.92
David Bazilchuk	\$340.00
Evans Motor Fuels	\$321.88
Flanders & Patch	\$352.76
George White	\$5,905.30
Hawkensen Equip.	\$445.93
Kibby Equipment	\$109.66
Michael Joyce	\$1,520.00
Red Hed Supply	\$1,343.84
Richard Remacle	\$9,712.00
Shaker Valley Auto	\$1,182.52
T&R's Used Cars	\$411.79
UV Equip Rentals	<u>\$30.00</u>
	\$21,850.60

HIGHWAYS - WINTER

AutoServ of Tilton	\$181.23
Canaan Hardware	\$141.79
Dyer's Welding	\$412.00
Evans Motor Fuels	\$841.17
George White	\$2,258.50
Granite State Glass	\$254.59
Harold Toms	\$3,853.00
Kibby Equipment	\$178.04
Lucky's Trailer Sales	\$25.00
NHCI-Treas. Of NH	\$42.25
Paul Lizotte	\$100.00
Richard Remacle	\$37,327.50
Shaker Valley	\$41.29
T&R's Used Cars	\$575.50

Tilton Ford	\$733.53
Twin State S & G	<u>\$645.99</u>
	\$47,611.38

CEMETERY

James Colburn	<u>\$1,379.00</u>
	\$1,379.00

ELECTION & REGISTRATION EXPENSE

The Cardigan	\$24.00
Daniel Hazelton	\$25.00
Ada Eastman	\$25.00
Edith Sova	\$25.00
Carol Decato	\$25.00
Scott Sanborn	\$25.00
Charles Sova	\$25.00
Pat White	\$25.00
Barbara Smith	\$73.64
Beverly Ells	\$50.00
Country Chronicle	<u>\$132.00</u>
	\$454.64

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NH Health Assn	\$15.00
MV Health Initiative	\$25.00
West Central Services	\$300.00
Senior Citizens	\$500.00
Visiting Nurse VT&NH	<u>\$1,200.00</u>
	\$2,040.00

INSURANCE & SOCIAL SECURITY

IRS	\$2,786.95
Primex	\$1,042.31
NHMA-PLT	<u>\$2,262.76</u>
	\$6,092.02

LEGAL

Gardner,Fulton&Waugh \$2,000.00
\$2,000.00

SANITATION

All Waste Services	\$11,629.36
NE Waste Services	\$3,748.27
Plymouth Sewer	<u>\$100.00</u>
	\$15,477.63

RECREATION AND CULTURE

Gary Hamel	\$75.65
Gnomon Copy	<u>\$354.89</u>
	\$430.54

PAYMENT TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DIVISIONS

MVRSD	\$310,700.68
Grafton County	<u>\$26,475.00</u>
	\$337,175.68

NEW HAMPSHIRE TAX ADMINISTRATION GRANT

Grant	\$12,000.00
Balance Carried Over	\$5,850.42
Expenses-None	\$0.00
Total	\$0.00
Balance Carried Over	\$5,850.42

The balance carried over may be used to update the computerized tax maps and acquire any needed computer software to access the files.

Report from the Selectmen

It has been a fairly quiet year in the Selectmen's office. Last January we held a successful auction of the George Hall property on Cross Road from which the town recovered all back taxes and expenses owed. We were pleased to see the land purchased by a local resident. Many thanks are owed to Robert and Sharon Proulx for their assistance with the process.

Many thanks also to our Road Agent George White, who last March inherited a budget deep in the hole. With next to nothing to work with, he has, with the assistance of Richard Remacle Construction, done a spectacular job of keeping our roads well maintained during last summer and clear of snow this winter. A section of New Colony Road that was not completed to our Road Agent's satisfaction two years ago was repaved last June, and the contractor provided a store of hardpack shoulder material. In another two years, the bond will be paid off. In January of 2004, the final payment was made on the town truck.

At two different times this past year, the Board of Selectmen, with the recommendation of the Planning Board has voted to authorize the issuance of building permits on sections of class VI roads in town: Hoyt Road, and a short section of the Class VI portion of Tug Mountain Road. The issuance of building permits on class VI roads is an issue that we expect will arise again for both Boards as development pressure continues to increase in our area. We hope that the soon to be completed Master Plan will provide the Board with some guidance on how to handle this potentially very important issue.

You may recall that a fund was established at last year's town meeting for use in preserving our ancient town records (the original

ledgers in our possession date back to the 1790's). We are asking that a modest amount be added to the fund this year. A couple of potential grant sources for this endeavor were found during the past year, but too late to apply for last year's grants. One was from the state government (we can only hope that the program survives the anticipated budget cuts), and one possibility was through the federal government. We hope to apply for some funds to augment our own, and have these valuable historic resources preserved soon, before they deteriorate any further.

The Board is pleased to announce the recent selection of the firm Earls, Neider & Perkins, LLC of Pembroke, NH to undertake a complete revaluation of the town during the coming year. This is a very well respected and professional organization that will examine and assess every property in town, from scratch. Not only will this bring our town into compliance with the new state rules regarding assessments, we believe it will also result in a fairer distribution of our tax burden. We ask our residents' and non-residents' utmost cooperation with these folks as they go about their business throughout the coming year. The new values are expected to be in place to be reflected on our December 2005 tax bills.

Two final items: the Board wishes to convey its utmost gratitude to Pat White for her invaluable assistance in all matters large and small. She has become indispensable, goes far above and beyond her call of duty as our administrative assistant, and always with a smile and a friendly word. And lastly, we bid a fond farewell to

Carol Decato who has chosen not to run for reelection so that she may focus her energies more fully on her Town Clerk responsibilities. We thank her for her many years of dedicated service, and wish her well.

As always, the Board welcomes input from our residents. We are here to serve each and every one of you in the best interest of our fine community. May all of you have a healthy and prosperous 2004.

Respectfully submitted

Carol E.Decato Scott C. Sanborn Charles E. Sova
Board of Selectmen

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board has completed the important task of updating and revising the Orange Master Plan, first developed back in 1984. The new master plan will provide a framework to guide the future growth and development of our community. The members of the Board are now in the process of reviewing and fine-tuning the completed preliminary draft of the 2004 Master Plan.

A public hearing on the preliminary draft is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2004. The hearing will provide an opportunity for the Board to review and highlight the preliminary draft, chapter by chapter. It will also provide an opportunity for the citizens to ask questions, to critique the draft, and to make suggestions and recommendations. Based on that citizen input, the Board will make appropriate revisions to the final document. Citizens will be notified about the hearing by a town-wide mailing, and will be able to obtain a copy of the draft master plan at the Town House, the Canaan Town Library, or by requesting one be mailed or delivered to their home prior to the hearing.

In addition to completing the master plan draft, the Planning Board reviewed, held hearings, and approved the following applications this past year:

- an annexation of 5.6 acres from the Donald Leavitt / Todd Paine property to the David and Marilyn Johnson property on Tuttle Hill Road.
- a minor subdivision in which a 153.92 acre parcel on Tuttle Hill Road, owned by Paul Arnold, was subdivided into two lots of 122.55 acres and 31.37 acres.
- a minor subdivision in which an 8.14 acre parcel on Route 4, owned by ADW Builders, Inc., was subdivided into three lots of 2.14 acres, 2.24 acres, and 3.91 acres.
- an annexation of 6.5 acres from the Archie and Betty Eastman property to the Colin and Mary Gunn property on New Colony Road.

On June 25, 2003, the Planning Board reviewed Fred and Tamra Hammond's proposed plan for the construction and operation of a Construction Demolition Debris Processing and Recycling Facility to be located on the present site of the F.C. Hammond Lumber Co. on Route 4. Since this commercial operation is not a permitted use as defined in the Orange Zoning Ordinance, the Planning Board referred the application to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for its review. After a public hearing on July 26, 2003, the ZBA voted unanimously to grant a special exception for the facility. On January 28, 2004, the applicants and their consulting engineer returned to the Planning Board to present an informative review of the site plan and the operating plan for the proposed facility. As part of an extensive review and permitting process required by the State of New Hampshire, the Department

of Environmental Services will conduct a public hearing at the Orange Town House in March, 2004 to present information on the proposal and to hear from the citizens.

With the assistance of the Upper Valley Land Trust, the Planning Board prepared and mailed information packets to twelve landowners of large parcels located throughout Orange. The purpose of this initiative is to educate and encourage owners of large tracts of land to consider placing conservation easements on their properties in order to preserve the scenic and rural character of our community and to protect our natural resources for future generations.

I would like to thank the members of the Planning Board for their dedication and commitment to our community. Each member of the Board contributes a great deal of experience, expertise, vision and sound judgment that combines to serve the best interests of our citizens.

The Planning Board again thanks the citizens of Orange for your interest and support, and invites you to continue to help us define our community's vision for the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Proulx, Chairman

ROAD AGENT REPORT

To the residents of Orange: This year many things have happened. The Town's equipment was in much need of repair. As a result it was out of service for periods of time. Many dollars were spent to refurbish the equipment

Weather conditions throughout the year were not ideal. Many rain and wind storms caused limbs and trees to fall.

Excessive snowfall mixed with rain resulted in difficult snow removal.

Roads were graded and regraded, potholes were filled along with various road repairs.

Four culverts were replaced. One on Tuttle Hill Road , two on Burnt Hill Road one on River Road. Four hundred yards of gravel were purchased to put on Burnt Hill Road, but due to weather conditions it was not done.

Many signs and roadside markers were repaired or replaced

Complaints were few, four with ice and water problems and two with trees or limbs in the road.

I would like to thank the Town's people that helped to keep the roadsides clean. I would also like to thank Richard Remacle and his men for their assistance in keeping the roadway clear this winter, without their expertise we would be in big trouble.

Respectfully Submitted

George White

Road Agent

REPORT OF THE ORANGE POLICE COVERAGE STUDY COMMITTEE

Members: Charles Sova (Selectmen's Representative), Barbara Ells, Bob Ells, Steve Hennig, Stu Smith, Dick Jaeger

Background: By vote at Town Meeting in 2003, the committee was

put together by Moderator Dan Hazelton to examine the Town's Police coverage, to identify problems and issues related to our current coverage system, and to present options the town could consider for obtaining the best possible coverage in the future. To gain an understanding of our present setup and assess needs and possibilities for improvement, we held a number of meetings, including sessions with Orange Police Chief Andy Ware and Earl

Sweeney, Director of Police Standards and Training and Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Safety for the State of New Hampshire.

Findings:

Actual Coverage. Chief Ware is generally reachable at all hours by phone, dispatch or pager but not always immediately available because of other involvement's, often some distance away. Furthermore there are no certified back-up personnel available to call on or to assist Chief Ware when a particularly demanding or dangerous situation arises, a condition definitely unacceptable by State Police and Department of Safety standards. Once Chief Ware does arrive at a particular incident or scene, his thorough training and willingness to stay up-to-date on current practices have resulted in very productive follow-ups and solved problems. Relying on the State Police for help is not always useful because officers are not always in the area and response time is very slow.

Police Department Operations : The functioning of the Orange Police Department needs to improve significantly in the submission of on time monthly activity reports, expense vouchers and payroll requests. At present it is difficult to obtain timely information on crimes and violations in the town and the Selectmen have problems working on budget preparation and management because of delays in filing of expense accounting forms.

General Considerations:

- Well marked vehicle so police presence is well known
- Appropriate office space for records, equipment, booking, etc.
- Possibility of citizens alert/crime watch team
- Average overall annual costs for a small town with a full time police department, (equipment and cruiser, several full and some part time officers) is \$300,000. +/-

Possible Solutions:

- Pursue a formal arrangement for coverage with a nearby town that has an established Police Department with a larger staff.
Issue: Do the residents of Orange want emergency coverage and extreme situation support only or regular patrolling as well?
- Pursue teaming with other smaller towns nearby with police coverage similar to what Orange has now so additional trained officers are available for assistance and back up when situations call for it.

Footnote: The Town should consider putting an appropriation in the 2004 Budget to fund the costs that would arise if we were to

contract with
another town for Police coverage.

Respectfully submitted:
Town of Orange Police Coverage Study Committee

MARY RICKSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND REPORT

In 1993, a scholarship fund for graduating seniors was started in honor of Mary Rickson, a long time resident of Orange. Mary is the originator of our annual Christmas party, and generously made Santa's gifts for children and adults. Even though she is no longer residing in Orange, she continued to send gifts for our Christmas parties for many years because she feels her home is here. In the spirit of Mary's dedication and love to the children and the Town of Orange, a scholarship in her name seemed appropriate.

We offer a scholarship to every graduating senior from the Town of Orange who plans to further his/her education. The interested senior is asked to write a short essay about our Town – past, present or future- and to serve two hours community service. To date, we have awarded 9 scholarships. The 2003 recipient was Ryan Morancy.

To raise money for scholarships, we have had bake sales and last March before Town Meeting, we enjoyed our 4th annual Baked Bean Supper. We currently have \$3,199.00 in our account. To keep this fund growing, we welcome community support in the form of donations, fund raising ideas, and participants.

As we begin our 10th year, we would like to thank the residents of the Town of Orange for rallying behind us and making these scholarships possible. Thank you to all who helped in any capacity. We could not have done this without you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anita Watson, Barbara Smith, Marilyn Johnson
Scholarship Committee

REPORT TO THE TOWNS AND CITIES IN DISTRICT ONE
By
Councilor Raymond S. Burton, Executive Councilor

It is a pleasure to report to you now in my 25th year of serving the 98 towns, 4 cities and Coos, Carroll, Grafton, Sullivan and Belknap counties of New Hampshire. All together there are 249,000 people who I consider my customers, clients and constituents. It has always been a pleasure to respond, as my duties within the Executive Branch of your state government mandate, to inquiries for information, relief and assistance as provided in NH state law and budget. It is an honor to serve you as a public servant.

Below are listed several documents that are available to citizens and I find them to be a valuable NH resource.

The 2003-2004 state telephone directory of state departments and personnel. This 180 page directory includes TDD access numbers, office information, coordinators, map of location of state buildings, legislative listings, judicial branch listings, department listings. Personnel listing and a topical listing. This available for a cost of \$6.00 plus \$2.50 postage. Make checks payable to the State of New Hampshire, or order on line at www.gencourt.state.nh.us\visitorcenter. The entire directory is available at <http://www.state.nh.us/government/agencies.html>

The 2003-04 NH County Directory of all NH County officials is free and available by calling (603)224-9222. This is also on the web at www.nhcounties.org

Also available at no cost from the Secretary of State Office at 271-3242 or at elections@sos.state.nh.us or mail at Secretary of State, State House Room 204, Concord, NH 03301 are the following publications.

The NH Election Procedure Manual for 2004-2005

The NH Election Law for 2004-2005

The NH Political calendar for 2004-2005

The duties of the NH Executive Council, The NH Tour Guide book, the official tourist map and the NH Constitution are always available from my office at 271-3632 or 747-3662 or ray.burton4@gte.net

As long as I'm around as one of your elected officials never ever feel you are alone in your hour of need. Contact me anytime!

REPORT OF TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

Your local Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands cooperate to reduce the risk of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Fire permits are mandatory for all outside burning unless the ground where the burning is to be done (and surrounding area) is completely covered with snow. Violations of the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail, in addition to the cost of suppressing the fire.

A new law effective January 1,2003 prohibits residential trash burning. Contact the New Hampshire Department of

Environmental Services at (800)498-6868 or www.des.state.nh.us for more information.

Help us to protect you and our forest resources. Most New Hampshire wildfires are human caused. Homeowners can help protect their homes by maintaining adequate green space around the house and making sure that the house number is correct and visible. Contact your fire department or the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands at www.nhdfl.org or 271-2217 for wildland fire safety information.

2003 FIRE STATISTICS

(all fires reported thru November 03, 2003)

TOTALS BY COUNTY CAUSE OF FIRE REPORTED

of fires Acres

Belknap	40	4.86	Arson	10
Carroll	46	13.99	Campfire	25
Cheshire	8	.68	Children	13
Coos	7	17.40	Smoking	20
Grafton	22	12.60	Debris	226
Hillsborough	60	11.34	Railroad	3
Merrimack	98	10.45	Lightning	2
Rockingham	56	18.54	Equipment	8
Strafford	34	7.94	Misc*	67
Sullivan	3	2.03	(*misc: powerlines, fireworks,elect. Fences, etc.)	

TOTAL FIRES & ACRES

2003	374	100
2002	540	187
2001	942	428
2000	516	149

GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2003

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well being of our older citizens. The Council's programs enable elderly individuals to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

The Council operates eight senior centers in Plymouth, Littleton, Canaan, Lebanon, Bristol, Orford, Haverhill and Lincoln, the information and assistance program Grafton County ServiceLink and also sponsors the Retire and Senior Volunteer Program of the Upper Valley and White Mountain (RSVP) . Through the centers, community-based long-term services including home delivered meals, congregate dining programs, transportation, adult day care, chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

During 2003, 7 older residents of Orange were served by one or more of the Council's programs offered through the Mascoma Area Senior Center:

- * Older adults from Orange enjoyed 515 balanced meals in the company of friends in the center's dining room.
- * Orange residents were transported to health care providers or other community resources on 107 occasions by our lift-equipped buses.
- * They received assistance with problems, crises or issues of long-term care through 49 visits by a trained social worker.
- * Orange's citizens also volunteered to put their talents and skills to work for a better community through 280 hours of volunteer service.

The cost to provide Council services for Orange residents in 2003 was \$5,339.77

Such services can be critical to elderly individuals who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty, saving tax dollars which would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. They also contribute to a higher quality of life for our older friends and neighbors. As our population grows older, supportive services such as those offered by the Council become even more critical.

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council very much appreciates Orange's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older citizens and enable them to meet the challenges of aging in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes. Roberta Berner, Executive Director

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES
ORANGE, NH
MARCH 11, 2003**

Daniel Hazelton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He explained the rules of the meeting. He proceeded to read

ARTICLE I: To choose by ballot and plurality vote 1 Town Clerk for one year, 1 Town Treasurer for one year, 1 Selectman for three years, 1 Cemetery Agent for one year, 1 Overseer of Public Welfare for one year, 1 Budget Committee Member for three years, 1 Auditors for one year, 1 Road Agent for one year, 1 Tax Collector for one year, 1 Health Officer for one year, 1 Supervisor of the Checklist for two years, 1 Deeding Agent for one year, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for one year, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for two years, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for three years and any other

officers required by law. The following articles will be discussed and acted upon at the business meeting, which will start at 7 p.m.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to give a discount of 3% except for resident taxes on taxes paid if full within twenty days from the date of the bills pursuant to RSA 80:52 on the condition that the taxpayer deduct the discount at the time of payment.

(Recommended by Selectmen)

Moved by Pat White, 2nd by Frank Giner to accept article as read.
Article passes.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be paid into the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of a revaluation of property.

(Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Moved by Nate Harpoortlian, seconded by Bob Ells. No discussion.
Article passes.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 dollars to be paid into the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing highway related equipment. (Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Moved by Pat White, 2nd by Barbara Smith. Discussion. Bob Ells suggested we need more money to buy a bigger vehicle to wing back roads after storms. George Smith said Richard Remacle had that equipment available, it was suggested he be asked to wing back the roads. Bob Proulx said he thought the town had decided a few years back not to buy a lot of equipment but to contract out for servicing of our roads. Discussion about rain and road run off , it was noted that Richard Remacle was working to do that.

Article moved and voted, passes.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate two thousand dollars (\$2000) to be paid into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of Town House building

improvements. (Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Moved by Linda Giner, 2nd by Harold Toms. Discussion. Barbara Smith noted that the door sill, on the handicap entrance was in bad need of repair with a gap under the door that allows water and mice to enter.

Article moved and passes unanimous.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the Highway Block Grant Fund of \$25,445.64 for construction, reconstruction and maintenance of Class 4 or 5 highways and for the purchase of equipment. Said amount to be included in Article 7.

(Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Moved by Dick Jaeger and seconded by George Smith. Discussion. It was asked if there were any major needs for repairs or equipment and it was noted by Charles Sova that there was nothing at this time. Frank Giner wanted to put a limit on spending by the Selectmen. James Collins noted that we have a budget we vote on and we trust the Selectmen to make valuable decisions. Article moved, passes.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$189,972.44 for town expenses as called for by the budget, submitted by the Budget Committee, and pass any vote in relation thereto. (Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee) Moved by Pat White 2nd by Bob Proulx. Discussion. Linda Giner talked about the lateness of the Police Chief in reporting his work in a timely manner, this has been a problem for several years, all employees of the town report regularly and so should Andy. It also affects our budget each year. The auditors and the Budget Committee have followed through each year making Andy aware of this but to no avail. The Selectmen have contacted Andy in writing to come to their next meeting for a discussion to resolve this ongoing problem. Also noted Andy has not been

submitted a report for the Annual Town Report and Kathy Stacy recommended that should be done. There was a lot of discussion about this problem and all feel Andy has no excuse for not submitting bills as his contract states that monthly bills should be submitted. Also it was noted that maybe it was time for an alternative to be looked into as a solution. Suggested by Bob Proulx to set up a committee to look at alternatives.

Kathleen Stacy made a motion to table Article 7 and continue discussion after Article 12. Moved by Kathy Stacy and seconded by Frank Giner. Article to table voted on, passes, Article tabled.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to establish a new capital reserve fund to be known as the Town Document Preservation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of restoring and preserving Town documents and to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund for said purpose. (Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Moved by Pat White and seconded by Linda Giner. Discussion. Linda Giner suggested if grants are considered that Mascoma Savings Bank Foundation be contacted for applying for their grants. Dick Jaeger said he would find out what Dartmouth uses to restore records. Jim Collins said he would check on ways to preserve books also. Scott Sanborn we have one estimate for two books and that is about \$7000 dollars. There are about 4 or 5 books needing this preservation. Article 8 moved and passes.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate two thousand dollars(\$2000) to be paid into the Town Document Preservation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of restoring and preserving Town documents. (Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee)

Moved by Linda Giner 2nd by Bruce Ells. Discussion. Carol Decato noted that Donna Dunkerton copied the birth, deaths, and

marriages from these old books at her own expense, and did a fine job, she gave copies to Carol for her own use so the old books will not have to be handled now for research request. Article passes.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will authorize the Moderator to appoint a committee of five Orange residents, none of whom shall be Town officers, to study the salaries of Town officers and report their findings in the next annual Town Report, including any warrant article, if any, they deem appropriate. (Recommended by Selectmen) Moved by Bob Proulx 2nd by Frank Giner. Discussion. Bob Proulx said it had been about 5 years since the last small raise and it was time for a new look at salaries, including police salaries. Bob thought the police salary should be a study committee. Article amended by Kathy Stacy to change reading of salaries to compensation. Amendment moved by Edith Sova 2nd by Frank Giner. Dick Jaeger wanted to know if the town had Municipal Insurance for its employees and it was noted that we do. Article as amended passes. Article with amendment passes.

ARTICLE 11: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, and other officers heretofore and pass any vote relative thereto. Anita reported on the Scholarship Fund.

ARTICLE 12: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting not on the warrant. Kathy Stacey brought up again talking about alternatives for the Police Chief job. Bob Proulx moved: To see if the Town will authorize the Moderator to appoint a committee of five Orange residents, to include 1 Selectman and 4 other citizens, to conduct a comprehensive study of the Orange Police Department and report their findings and recommendations in the next annual town report, including any warrant article, if any, they deem appropriate. Article passes. Danny asked for any volunteers to see him after the meeting.

ARTICLE 7: Kathy Stacy asked Andy Ware who arrived at the meeting to report on how much he thought he would use this year. He was also asked if he would be reporting in a timely manner and he said he would. Moved Article, passes.

Polls are declared closed.

ARTICLE 13: Poll shall not close earlier than eight o'clock in the evening.

Carol Decato noted to Anita Watson from the Cemetery Trustees, we have had questions about the dollar amount of a cemetery plots as being too low and should be discussed. She said we first needed more Cemetery Trustees and then it could be discussed.

Meeting adjourned 8:38pm

A True Copy: Attest Carol E Decato/Town Clerk Orange

